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Dr. Martin Luther King. Jr. taught people many things. He taught people about racial injustice, poverty, love, and war. These teachings haven't solved all these problems with the world, but they have inspired people to try. One of the issues are not more important than others, but the issue of poverty should have more people working on a solution. Poverty can be solved with a simple solution. Poverty can be eradicated by having the rich donate some of their wealth to poverty programs and homeless shelters, and by having the American government spend less money on war and defense.

Spending less money on war is part of the solution because the American government wants to spend over 70 billion dollars on defense. The Washington Post states that, "The Trump administration has proposed \$750 billion in defense spending as part of its budget request to Congress for next year, as well as steep cuts to domestic programs in health care and education.". This perfectly shows that spending so much money on defense and war causes citizens to suffer. If the American government would spend less on war, more money can be invested into helping people get out of poverty. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. supports this by saying that "It has played havoc with our domestic destinies. This day we are spending five hundred thousand dollars to kill every Vietcong soldier. Every time we kill one we spend about five hundred thousand dollars while we spend only fifty-three dollars a year for every person characterized as poverty-stricken in the so-called poverty program, which is not even a good skirmish against poverty.". Dr. King believed that the government spent too much money on war in his lifetime. He also clearly shows how this money could have been used for the poverty program.

Having rich people donate some of their wealth to people who are living in poverty is the other part of the solution because the official American poverty rate of 2017 was 12.3%. The Center for Poverty Research states that, “an estimated 39.7 million Americans lived in poverty according to the official measure.” This shows clearly that all that money going towards defense can be used to bring all these people out of poverty. 12.3% may seem like a small number but 39.7 million doesn’t. Dr. King supports this by stating that, “As long as there is poverty in this world, no man can be totally rich even if he has a billion dollars.” This shows that he believed that the wealthy should donate some of their money to those suffering through poverty. No one should have to choose between paying their rent and eating while others can blow a million dollars weekly.

In conclusion, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. believed that it is wrong for one man to have a billion dollars while another is wondering when his next meal will be. He also believed that spending so much on war and defense for the United States while the homeless and the poverty stricken didn’t even get one hundred dollars a year. The solution to poverty is obvious. Those who have to live through poverty should be getting help from the rich and the government. It’s not like it’s a hard solution either. The American government could cut costs when it comes to defense and war while investing that money to poverty programs. Rich people don’t need to live in a million dollar mansion, so they can donate some of their money to homeless shelters and any program that will help people who live in poverty. If everyone works together to put the solution in action; it will work.

**Sources:**

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